

FREEING OF PUEBLO **REPORTED IMMINENT**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4 (AP)—An Alabama Congressman said today that the United States intelligence ship Pueblo and its crew might be released on Sept. 9, North Korea's Independence Day.

Representative William L. Dickinson, a Republican member of the House Armed Services Committee, said he had been informed by reliable sources that the release of the ship and 82 crewmen was imminent and might coincide with the anniversary. The State Department said it had no information on Mr. Dickinson's report.

The Pueblo was seized last January by the North Koreans, who charged that the vessel was operating in North Korean waters.

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TOKYO, Sept. 4—A leader of Japan's Communist party, just back from Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, said today that the North Korean Government had hinted it would make some move to try and settle the Pueblo incident next week.

Kenji Miyamoto, Secretary General of the Communist

party, said here that North Korean leaders had said there would be "some progress" with regard to the Pueblo issue, to be disclosed on Sept. 9, the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.